

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1, 5-8, 12-14, 17, 21-24, 28-31, 35-38, 42, and 44 and cancel claims 4, 11, 20, 27, 34, and 41 such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1.(Currently amended) An automatic loading mechanism for an occlusion device having an occluding body ~~with~~ attached to a fixed center post, the occluding body having an open state and a collapsed state, the mechanism comprising:

a plurality of puller arms attached to the occluding body for collapsing the ~~device~~ occluding body from the open state to the collapsed state; and

a floating center ~~post~~ connected to the puller arms, wherein the floating center is positioned adjacent the center post when the occluding body is in its open state, and is movable away from the center post to cause the puller arms to collapse the occluding body.

2.(Original) The mechanism of claim 1 wherein the puller arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

3.(Original) The mechanism of claim 1 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

4.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 3 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

5.(Currently amended) The mechanism of claim 1 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center post.

6. (Currently amended) The mechanism of claim 1 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ is constructed of platinum-iridium.

7.(Currently amended) The mechanism of claim 1 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center post is constructed of platinum-iridium.

8. (Currently amended) A septal occlusion device comprising:

an occluding body comprising [[a ]] first and second collapsible support ~~frame~~ frames  
connected to a center section;

a plurality of puller arms attached to the occluding body; and

a floating center ~~post~~ which, when pulled away from the center section, pulls the puller arms  
to collapse the first collapsible support frame from an open state to a  
collapsed state.

9.(Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

10.(Original) The mechanism of claim 8 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

11.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 10 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

12.(Currently amended) The device of claim 8 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center ~~post~~ section.

13. (Currently amended) The device of claim 8 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ is constructed of platinum-iridium.

14. (Currently amended) The device of claim 8 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center ~~post~~ section is constructed of platinum-iridium.

15. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the support frames each comprise a wire hoop and a plurality of support arms.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15 wherein the support arms are constructed of stranded wire.

17. (Currently amended) An occlusion device comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ center section extending in an axial direction;  
right and left elastic shape memory fixation devices attached to the ~~fixed~~ center section;  
right and left sheets attached to the right and left fixation devices, respectively;  
right and left support hoops attached to the right and left fixation devices, respectively;  
a plurality of puller arms connected to the right support hoop; and  
a floating center ~~post~~ which, when pulled away from the center section, pulls the puller arms  
to collapse the ~~first collapsible support frame~~ right fixation device, right sheet  
and right support hoop from an open state to a collapsed state.

18. (Original) The occlusion device of claim 17 wherein the arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

19. (Original) The mechanism of claim 17 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

20.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 19 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

21.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 17 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center ~~post~~ section.

22.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 17 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ is constructed of platinum-iridium.

23.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 17 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center ~~post~~ section is constructed of platinum-iridium.

24.(Currently amended) An occlusion device for occluding a septal defect, the occlusion device comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ center post;

a first occluding body connected to the center post, wherein the first occluding body comprises a hoop at its outer edge;

a second occluding body connected to the center post, wherein the second occluding body comprises a hoop at its outer edge;

a plurality of puller arms connected to the first occluding body; and

a floating center ~~post~~ which, when pulled away from the center post, pulls the puller arms to collapse the first occluding body from an open state to a collapsed state.

25.(Original) The occlusion device of claim 24 wherein the arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

26.(Original) The mechanism of claim 24 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

27.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 26 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

28.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 24 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center post.

29.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 24 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ is constructed of platinum-iridium.

30.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 24 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center post is constructed of platinum-iridium.

31.(Currently amended) An occlusion device for the closure of a physical anomaly, the device comprising:

- a ~~fixed~~ center post having distal and proximal ends;
- a first set of support arms extending from the distal end of the center post;
- a first sheet attached to the first set of arms;
- a first hoop attached to the first set of arms and the first sheet;
- a second set of support arms extending from the proximal end of the center post;
- a second sheet attached to the second set of support arms;
- a second hoop attached to the second set of arms and the second sheet;

a floating center ~~post~~ located on the proximal end of the device; and  
a plurality of puller arms attached to the floating center post and first support hoop which collapse the first support hoop, the first set of arms and the first sheet when the floating center ~~post~~ is pulled away from the center post.

32.(Original) The occlusion device of claim 31 wherein the arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

33.(Original) The mechanism of claim 31 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

34.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 33 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

35.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 31 wherein the floating center comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center post.

36.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 31 wherein the floating center ~~post~~ is constructed of platinum-iridium.

37.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 31 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center post is constructed of platinum-iridium.

38.(Currently amended) An occlusion device comprising:

a first collapsible support frame which comprises a support hoop;

a second collapsible support frame which comprises a support hoop;  
a center post connected to the first and second support frames;  
a first sheet attached to the first collapsible support frame;  
a second sheet attached to the second collapsible support frame;  
a plurality of puller arms attached to the first support hoop; and  
a floating center post which, when pulled away from the center post, engages the puller arms  
to collapse the first collapsible support frame from an open state to a  
collapsed state.

39.(Original) The occlusion device of claim 38 wherein the arms are constructed of nickel titanium.

40.(Original) The mechanism of claim 38 wherein an angle between adjacent puller arms is between about 5° and about 180°.

41.(Canceled) The mechanism of claim 40 wherein the puller arms are offset from one another by about 45°.

42.(Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 38 wherein the floating center comprises an axially extending groove which reversibly connects with an axially extending pin extending from the ~~fixed~~ center post.

43. (Original) The occlusion device of claim 38 wherein the floating center is constructed of platinum-iridium.

First Named Inventor: Joseph A. Marino

Application No.: 10/668,445

-9-

44. (Currently amended) The occlusion device of claim 38 wherein the ~~fixed~~ center post is constructed of platinum-iridium.